

**MINNESOTA ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO
THE U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
MEETING MINUTES**

January 9, 2017

The Minnesota Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Committee) convened via conference call to discuss civil rights concerns in the State. Velma Korbelt chaired the meeting and performed the initial roll call of committee members present. The meeting was open to the public and took place from 2:00 PM to 3:35 PM CDT.

State Advisory Committee Members:

Present:

1. Korbelt, Velma (Chair)
2. Doyle, Kenneth (Vice Chair)
3. Kolbo, Kirk
4. Battle, Robert
5. Valens, Nyagatare
6. Dobratz, Matthew
7. Beaulieu, Jacqueline
8. Vischer, Robert
9. Huynh, Denise

Absent:

1. Levy-Pounds, Nekima
2. Taylor, Craig
3. Check, Ryan
4. Nelson, Teresa
5. Guadarrama, Leticia

Commission Staff present:

- Wojnarowski, Melissa (DFO)
- Barreras, David
- Fortes, Ana
- Moreno, Victoria (USCCR intern)
- Wilks, Olivia (USCCR intern)

Members of the Public present:

- None identified

Meeting Notes/Decisions Made:

Welcome and Roll Call

The Chair welcomed all members and took a roll call of members present.

Approval of Minutes

Committee member Robert Vischer moved to approve minutes from Committee's meeting December 8 2016 as drafted; Bob Battle seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Open Comment

The public lines were opened for comment regarding the selection of panelist nominations. No public comments were received.

Discussion: Hearing Preparation—*Police Practices in Minnesota*

- 1) Logistics Review and Update
 - a. The date and venue of the hearing have been confirmed; March 21, 2017 at School of Law, University of St. Thomas.
- 2) Committee Reminder
 - a. The chair held a brief discussion of Committee member roles and the importance of outside preparation for meetings.
- 3) Discussion of Panel Nominations

a. Academic Panel

- i. Panelists selected:
 - 1. Emily Baxter**
 - 2. James Densley**
 - 3. Duchess Harris**
 - 4. Thomas Champion**
- ii. Alternates:
 1. Perry Moriearty
 2. Michael Tonry
 3. Richard Frase
- iii. Discussion:
 1. Committee member Robert Vischer stated for the record his opinion that the Committee should not include people on the panels who do not have proven expertise specifically in the area of 21st century policing reform.

b. Community Panel I

- i. Panelists selected:
 - 1. Representative from the ACLU of Minnesota**
 - 2. Lou Bellamy**
 - 3. Jason Sole**
 - 4. Reverend Alfred Babington Johnson**
 - 5. TBD nominee representing community public safety perspective**
- ii. Alternates:
 1. Anthony Newby, Neighborhoods Organizing for Change

iii. Discussion:

1. Two Committee members expressed concern that the community panel did not capture the community public safety perspective that more police are needed to address high crime neighborhoods. These members will provide the Committee with a few panelist names to represent this viewpoint.
 - a. The Minneapolis Downtown council was suggested as a possibility for this perspective.

c. *Community Panel II*

i. Panelists Selected:

- 1. Regional Native Public Defense**
- 2. Hmong American Partnership**
- 3. Somali Justice Advocacy Center**
- 4. Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs**
- 5. Roxanne Anderson**

ii. Alternates:

1. Anne Degroot

d. *Law Enforcement Panel*

i. Panelists Selected:

- 1. Janee Harteau**
- 2. Lt. Bob Kroll**
- 3. Todd Axtell**
- 4. Richard Stanek**
- 5. Bob Fletcher**
- 6. Mark Hanneman**
- 7. Chief Walter Wobig**

ii. Alternates: none

iii. Discussion:

1. Committee member Robert Vischer moved to create an independent Law Enforcement Panel, and to combine the Policy-Maker/Judicial panels into one; /Committee member Kirk Kolbo seconded this motion; the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.
2. The Committee discussed the importance of including at least one neighborhood beat officer at the hearing to provide a different and valuable perspective on policing practices
3. The Committee discussed the importance of having representation from rural law enforcement agents

e. Policy-Makers/Judicial Panel

i. Panelists Selected:

1. **John Choi**
2. **Katherine Roe**
3. **Peggy Scott**
4. **Bobby Joe Champion**
5. **Abdi Warsame**

ii. Alternates:

1. Tony Cornish
2. Barb Johnson

iii. Discussion:

1. The Committee discussed the USSCR statutory report on municipal fees and the recent information about this problem in Ramsey county, suggesting that panelist John Choi could offer insight to this.

- 4) Committee member Robert Vischer moved to accept the nominations as presented; Committee member Bob Battle seconded this motion; the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Future Plans and Actions

The Committee will next meet February 17, 2017 to provide updates on panelist outreach and discuss any outstanding needs for the hearing.

1. Outreach

- a. Velma and Melissa will create format for Committee members to indicate which panelists they will conduct outreach with.
- b. Once this is created, Committee members should fill this out and begin outreach.

2. Reminders

- a. Committee members should contact Carolyn Allen for travel arrangements if travel support to the hearing will be required.

Next Meeting

February 17, 2017, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned

3:35 PM CDT